

From: Eoc, Epahq
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 10:20 PM
To: Eoc, Epahq
Subject: EOC Spot Report: Hood Mercury Spill, Odessa, TX

This report is being sent as a bcc to prevent accidental Reply to All messages.

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY



EOC Spot Report: Hood Mercury Spill, Odessa, TX
US Environmental Protection Agency
Report as of 2300 EDT on 3/19/14

Overview: On Tuesday 3/18, the Odessa Fire and Rescue Haz-Mat team responded to Hood Jr. High School for a mercury release. Some children reportedly took about an ounce of mercury in a water bottle to school that morning. The bottle was carried into the cafeteria, several classrooms, and the principal's office. About 60 children were decontaminated at the school and then transported to the two hospitals in Odessa. All patients were asymptomatic and were discharged from the hospitals the same day.

Ector County Independent School District (ISD) hired a haz-mat company, Allied International, which arrived on-scene Tuesday and began assessment and cleanup efforts on the school. The school will remain closed until at least Monday, 3/24, while these efforts continue.

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions: Late Wednesday, Ector County ISD officials requested assistance from EPA Region 6 with air monitoring activities related to mercury vapor analysis.

EPA Actions: An EPA Region 6 OSC will arrive on-scene tomorrow morning, 3/20, along with START contractors and air monitoring instruments.

Media Interest: Moderate, Local

<http://www.newswest9.com/story/25005634/students-exposed-to-mercury-at-hood-junior-high-hazmat-officials>

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2014/03/19/5663300/student-in-odessa-takes-mercury.html>

http://www.oaoa.com/news/education/ecisd/article_f1b4c98a-aef3-11e3-bd98-0017a43b2370.html

The HQ EOC will continue to monitor and provided updates as needed.

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Pete Oh , Watch Officer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Headquarters Emergency Operations Center
1200 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington, DC 20004
202-564-3850 202-564-8729 (fax)

<mailto:eoc.epahq@epa.gov>